Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02727 062207Z

73
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 H-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /062 W
---------- 029935
R 062105Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 366

UNCLAS OTTAWA 2727

POUCHED ALL CONSULATES IN CANADA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, CA
SUBJ: PRESS REPORTS EXTAFF UNCOMFORTABLE WITH AMBASSADOR'S STYLE

JULY 5 OTTAWA JOURNAL CARRIES FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY JOHN BEST, WHO HAS REPUTATION AS CAREFUL AND WELL-CONNECTED REPORTER UNDER HEADLINE "HIGH VOLTAGE US ENVOY SHOCKS MANY HERE":

BEGIN TEXT. UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR THOMAS ENDERS HAS TAKEN CANADA BY STORM - AND CANADIAN AUTHORITIES ARE NOT SURE THEY LIKE THE EXPERIENCE.

SINCE HIS ARRIVAL HERE EARLY THIS YEAR, THE VIGOROUS, SIX-FOOT-SEVEN DIPLOMAT HAS MADE HIS MARK IN A WAY THAT NO PREVIOUS AMERICAN ENVOY - OR, IT IS PROBABLY SAFE TO SAY, ANY OTHER DIPLOMAT - HAS EVER DONE IN SUCH SHORT TIME.

HE SPENT A RELATIVELY FEW WEEKS FINDING HIS FEET AFTER THE BUREAUCRATIC INFIGHTING ASSOCIATED WITH HIS PREVIOUS HIGH-LEVEL JOB AT STATE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON. THEN HE BEGAN TO ASSERT HIS PRESENCE HERE.

AND A FORMIDABLE PRESENCE IT HAS BECOME. IN A SERIES OF SPEECHES AND INTERVIEWS, MR. ENDERS HAS TALKED ABOUT CANADA-U.S. AFFAIRS WITH A CANDOR AND BLUTNESS THAT, IT THEY HAVE NOT MADE THINGS SMOOTHER
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 OTTAWA 02727 062207Z

OR EASIER, AT LEAST HAVE HELPED PUT THEM INTO CLEARER

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

PERSPECTIVE.

IN THE PROCESS, HE HAS HELPED CANADIANS UNDERSTAND BETTER THE REALITIES OF THEIR COUNTRY'S NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH ITS BIG SOUTHERN NEIGHBOR.

IF AN ANODYNE IS WHAT SOME PEOPLE THOUGHT CANADA-U.S. RELATIONS MIGHT NEED AT THIS PARTICULAR POINT, AMBASSADOR ENDERS' PRESENCE HERE HASN'T PROVIDED IT.

HE IS A PERSONFICATION OF THE ATTITUDE NOW OBVIOUSLY IN VOGUE IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT CANADA MUST BE DEALT WITH IN A NEW AND MORE VIGOROUS FASHION. NOT ONLY IS THE OLD, SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP DEAD BUT THE JUNIOR PARTNER IN IT HAS BECOME MORE ASSERTIVE AND EVEN QUARRELSOME THAN EVER BEFORE. IT MUST BE TREATED ACCORDINGLY.

CANADIAN AUTHORITIES DON'T SEEM ENTIRELY SURE WHAT TO MAKE OF THIS TOUGH-TALKING, SELF-ASSURED, AT TIMES QUERULOUS AMBASSADOR. SOME FIND HIM LACKING IN SENSITIVITY AND A GRASP OF THE FINER POINTS IN THE VAST AND INFINITELY COMPLEX MACHINERY OF CANADA-U.S. RELATIONS.

THEIR ASSESSMENT IS THAT ENDERS HAS AS YET ONLY A SUPERFICIAL KNOWLEDGE OF CANADA AND WHAT MAKES IT TICK, AND HIS INSIGHTS ARE BADLY IN NEED OF "MATURATION". THEY QUESTION WHETHER HIS FRONTAL STRATEGY BEST SERVES THE INTEREST OF HIS OWN COUNTRY, LET ALONE THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.

"THERE IS A REAL DEGREE OF DYNAMIC TENSION BETWEEN CANADA AND THE U.S.," EXPLAINED AN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT SOURCE. "THEREFORE ISSUES HAVE TO BE APPROACHED IN A BALANCED WAY, AND WITH SENSIVITY ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER."

HE MADE CLEAR THAT HE DIDN'T THINK THE NO-NONSENSE, HIGH-VOLTAGE AMBASSADOR, WHO WITH HIS DRIVING ENERGY AND FORBIDDING STATURE IS A PRETTY FAIR SYMBOL OF RAW AMERICAN POWER, HAS SHOWN THE REQUISITE AMOUNT OF EITHER UNCLASSIFIED

BALANCE OR SENSITIVITY.

"SOME OF HIS REMARKS HAVE NOT BEEN FELICITOUSLY PHRASED."

OFFICIALS HERE APPEAR DISQUIETED ABOUT WHAT THEY REGARD AS ENDERS' PROVOCATIVE AND ONE-SIDED ASSESSMENT OF SOME OF THE PROBLEMS IN TRANS-BORDER RELATIONS.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

FOR INSTANCE, IN A RECENT MAGAZINE INTERVIEW HE DECLARED THAT HE THOUGHT CANADA'S FOREIGN-TAKEOVER LEGISLATION IS "MORE FAR-REACHING THAN SIMILAR LEGISLATION IN OTHER INDUSTRALIZED DEMOCRACIES."

CANADIAN OFFICIALS SAY THAT SIMPLY ISN'T TRUE. THERE STILL ARE FEW, IF ANY, COUNTRIES ANYWAHER, WHERE THE FOREIGN INVESTMENT CLIMATE IS MORE HOSPITABLE THAN IN CANADA, THEY INSIST.

AGAIN, IN DISCUSSING U.S. COMPLAINTS ABOUT SASKATCHEWAN'S TAKEOVER OF A PART OF THE POTASH INDUSTRY, HE HAS SEVERAL TIMES NOTED THAT AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY MADE POSSIBLE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE POTASH DEPOSITS. THE SUGGESTION SEEMED TO BE THAT THIS SHOULD SOMEHOW MAKE THE INDUSTRY UNTOUCHABLE, OR AT LEAST BRING THE AMERICAN OWNERS ADDITIONA COMPENSATION.

THIS WAS LIKE WAVING A RED FLAG AT A BULL. "IF THE IMPLICATION WAS THAT WE EVER OWED ANYTHING MORE THAN A FAIR RATE OF RETURN ON INVESTMENT, I DON'T THINK THAT IS ACCEPTABLE," RETORTED A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN.

SIMILARLY, OFFICIALS HERE DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF ENDERS' REPEATED SUGGESTIONS THAT CANADA HAS BEEN GOUGING THE U.S. ON OIL PRICES.

ANOTHER RECENT ENDERS STATEMENT THAT WENT OVER LIKE A LEAD BALLOON WAS TO THE EFFECT THAT CANADA CANNOT UNILATERALLY CUT BACK ITS RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. WITHOUT PROVOKING A STRONG REACTION FROM THE AMERICANS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

IT WAS SEEN HERE AS MISREPRESENTING THE WHOLE THRUST OF THE SO-CALLED "THIRD OPTION" IN CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY, WHICH IS TO DIVERSIFY EXTERNAL CONTACTS WITHOUT DIMINISHING TIES WITH THE U.S.

WHATEVER THE PROS AND CONS OF HIS POSITION, ENDERS HAS PULLED NO PUNCHES IN TALKING TO CANADIANS, AND IT IS LIKELY THAT HE HAS PULLED NONE IN DEALING WITH THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

HE HAS HAD SO MUCH TO SAY, MOST OF IT CONTROVERSIAL, IN SUCH A SHORT TIME, THAT HE CONTRIVES TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION ALMOST OF AN IRRESISTIBLE FORCE.

HE HAS PRESENTED A CHALLENGE TO CANADA, AND CANADA

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

ISN'T SURE HOW TO RESPOND. CANADIANS DO NOT LIKE BEING TOLD THAT MOST OF THE CURRENT ISSUES IN RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. RESULT FROM ACTIONS TAKEN BY CANADA, SINCE SUCH AS ASSESSMENT MAY IGNORE UNDERLYING CAUSES.

THEY GET NERVOUS WHEN THE U.S. TALKS OF "THE EXPANSIONARY SOLUTION" TO JOINT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, SINCE IT SOUNDS VAGUELY LIKE A EUPHEMISM FOR CONTINENTALISM.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY CAN'T COMPLAIN ABOUT BEING FAIRLY WARNED THAT THE U.S. MAY NOT HAVE ENOUGH INVESTMENT CAPITAL IN THE YEARS AHEAD TO SATISFY ITS OWN NEEDS AND THOSE OF CANADA TOO. NEITHER CAN THEY COMPLAIN ABOUT ENDERS' GENERALLY UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDE TOWARD CANADIAN ASPIRATIONS, NOR DISPUTE THE GENUINENESS OF HIS DESIRE FOR A "NEW RELATIONSHIP OF CONFIDENCE" IN CANADA-U.S. AFFAIRS.

ENDERS SPEAKS STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER AND LAYS IT ALL ON THE LINE. A MOST DIFFICULT DIPLOMAT TO DEAL WITH, INDEED. END TEXT.
ENDERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TEXT, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OTTAWA02727
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760260-0942
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760788/aaaaczgc.tel
Line Count: 191
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 FEB 2004 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <06 AUG 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REPORTS EXTAFF UNCOMFORTABLE WITH AMBASSADOR'S STYLE JULY 5 OTTAWA JOURNAL CARRIES FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY JOHN BEST
TAGS: SOPN, CA, US, (ENDERS, THOMAS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006